



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Kirk Thompson
Director

Derek Schmidt
Attorney General

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Thompson announces KBI leadership team

TOPEKA – (September 2, 2011) – Kansas Bureau of Investigation Director Kirk Thompson today announced the new senior leadership team for the state's top criminal investigation agency.

Career law enforcement officer David Hutchings will serve as associate director and longtime criminal prosecutor and KBI employee Kyle Smith has been named deputy director.

"Dave Hutchings and Kyle Smith will be outstanding members of the leadership team at the KBI," Thompson said. "I'm pleased they have agreed to serve in these roles. The three of us look forward to working with all of the professional staff at the KBI to serve the citizens of Kansas and various law enforcement agencies."

Hutchings, a Manhattan native and graduate of Kansas State University and of the FBI National Academy, began his law enforcement career with the Riley County Police Department in January 1987. He joined the KBI as a special agent in 1990 and principally has been involved in the investigation and prosecution of controlled substance violations. He has served as the Task Force Manager for the Southeast Kansas Drug Enforcement Task Force. He has also worked in the KBI's Forfeiture Program, and in the KBI Information Services Program establishing the offender registration working group. Hutchings has instructed law enforcement officers across the state on a wide range of topics. Since 2008, Hutchings has worked as the special agent in charge for the Topeka Region of the Special Operations Division of the KBI.

Smith has 30 years experience as a prosecutor, law enforcement officer and administrator. After receiving his law degree in 1981 from the University of Kansas, Smith spent six years as a prosecutor in the Lyon County Attorney's Office. In 1987 he was appointed assistant attorney general and general counsel to the KBI. In 1990, he was transferred to a newly formed narcotics strike force unit within the KBI and commissioned as a law enforcement officer. Smith served in various roles at the KBI, leaving as deputy director in 2007 to become the executive director of the National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws in Washington, D.C. Smith returned to Kansas as legal advisor to the Topeka Police Department and joined the attorney general's office in 2011. He will continue to serve as an assistant attorney general during his tenure as deputy director of the KBI.

Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, who appointed Thompson as KBI director in June, praised Thompson's selections for senior staff at the KBI.

"Kirk, Dave and Kyle are experienced and dedicated law enforcement professionals committed to keeping Kansans safe," Schmidt said. "I'm proud of this new, professional leadership team and have great confidence in their ability to provide strong direction for the KBI and to work cooperatively with law enforcement organizations throughout our state."

Thompson's nomination as director was confirmed yesterday by the Senate Confirmations Committee, allowing him to begin serving as KBI director. The committee's action must be made final by a vote of the full Senate when it reconvenes in January. Hutchings and Smith will assume their new roles September 6.

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